

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT(S): Perls *et al.* DOCKET NO.: BIT-001 (1538/47)  
SERIAL NO.: 09/928,102 GROUP NO.: 1634  
FILING DATE: August 10, 2001 EXAMINER: Carla J. Myers  
TITLE: GENETIC LOCI INDICATIVE OF PROPENSITY FOR LONGEVITY  
AND METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING PROPENSITY FOR AGE-  
RELATED DISEASES

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on December 18, 2002 in connection with the above-referenced patent application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for conducting a telephonic interview on May 28, 2003 with Applicants' attorneys, Thomas C. Meyers and Jeremy P. Occek. Applicants have amended claim 15. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 15-22 are in condition for allowance in the patent application identified above, and such action is hereby requested.

A petition for a three-month extension of time is enclosed herewith. Applicants claim small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27, therefore the resulting fee for the three-month extension of time is \$465.00.